



Mayor Depreo	
Councilmember L'Ecuyer	At-Large
Councilmember Finley	Ward 1
Councilmember Moran	Ward 2
Councilmember Morgan	Ward 3
Councilmember Clark	Ward 4

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Tuesday, March 16, 2021**  
**6:00 PM CST**  
Council Chambers, City Hall

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**Call to Order.**

At 6:00 p.m. Mayor Depreo called meeting to order.

Invocation - Councilmember Moran led prayer. Mayor Depreo asked everyone to put Ron Jones in their prayers for the recent loss of his wife and son.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present:

Ward 1 Councilmember Finley

Ward 2 Councilmember Moran

Ward 3 Councilmember Morgan

Ward 4 Councilmember Clark

At-Large Councilmember L'Ecuyer

Confirm or Adjust Agenda Order

Motion made by Ward 3 Morgan, seconded by Ward 4 Clark to approve the agenda with the following amendments:

Add Agenda Item 2021-081: Motion to incorporate into the Minutes correspondence dated March 15, 2021 to legislative delegates regarding treasury guidance for American Rescue Plan (H.R. 1319) funds.

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Presentation Agenda.**

Council Comments.

1. The next regular meeting of the City Council will be held April 6, 2021 at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall located at 5000 Diamondhead Circle.
2. Frank Bordeaux - BXS Insurance provided overview of the City's insurance renewal proposal.

City Manager's Report.

1. Fire Fund Balance – When the city was formed, we collected .25 mills for fire dept. The city is not able to directly spend this money since we do not have a fire dept. The city has been holding these funds for many years. In talking with the County, the Diamondhead Fire District, and our auditor, we are asking for authorization to pay these funds to the county for the direct purpose of buying specific equipment for the Diamondhead Fire District. They have provided invoices for the equipment they are purchasing. We want to

send the check to the county to buy this equipment, and this will close the Fire Fund in the city. Our auditor (Ty Necaie) agrees with this process.

2. Unmarked police car – We need council approve to have an unmarked police vehicle. This is for AJ, the police captain's, new truck.
3. GRPC – I am asking for authorization to hire GRPC to write a new BUILD Grant application for the city. They wrote the original grant two years ago, and GRPC updated it to be submitted again last year. For 2021, we would like to update this grant application again to be able to submit it this summer. This grant is for our Commercial District Transformation Project.
4. Dog Park Donations – This is the list of donations that have been received by the City that are designated for the dog park. The committee is actively making efforts to identify grant opportunities and solicit donations to help pay for the construction of this park. The council needs to formally accept all donations to the City.
5. Hotel Study – I would like to hire CORE Hospitality to do a feasibility study for an upper midscale hotel in Diamondhead. This is specific to this type of hotel and is needed by developers who may consider Diamondhead. It can be used by any hotel developer and for any location in the commercial area of the city. This expense can be reimbursed to the city by a new TIF bond for this commercial district, which is being prepared. This study is different from the one we had USM do for us. It can be used for securing financing and investors. I received two proposals to do this study, and CORE had the best price. This is what the developer for Hampton Inn has requested of the City at this time. Again, it can be used for any upscale midscale hotel in any location and not just specific to this hotel and location.
6. Montjoy Creek – Jason is ready to submit the permit application to DMR for the Montjoy Creek Improvements project based on the layout previously approved by the council. We have completed the wetlands delineation of this area that assisted Jason in preparation of the permit. Permitting is our next step to move this project along.
7. Dog Park – We are asking for council approval of the design and location of the dog park. The city hired Orion Planning and Design to prepare the layout of the new dog park. The location is the parcel near Twin Lakes that the city purchased from Purcell. We will continue to seek grants and donations to assist with paying to build the park.
8. Memorial Hospital – I am asking for authorization to sign an agreement with Memorial Physicians Clinic to be a provider for occupational medical services for the city. This is used by human resources for new employee hires and workers compensation injuries. This includes drug testing and pre-employment screenings. We have the same agreement with Ochsner, but they are not as responsive in setting appointments. They are telling us it could be weeks before they can see one of our employees. Memorial has indicated they can be much more responsive.
9. Road Paving – This motion will rescind the action of the council on Feb 8<sup>th</sup> to accept the low bid from Land Shapers based on the recommendation from our engineering firm. This will require us to re-bid this paving project.
10. City Hall Parking Lot – Because this item was tabled at our last meeting, it automatically returns to the agenda. I am recommending that the council take no action on this item today and that it be placed back on the agenda when we have secured possible grant funding for ADA improvements.
11. March of the Mayors – Last Friday, our city crew delivered the cans of soup donated by our residents for the "March of the Mayors" food drive. An estimated 2,880 cans of soup and other items were donated for this cause. Our residents did amazing! Thank you to Rouses, the Club at Diamondhead, and Family Dollar for serving as collection locations.

**Public Comments on Agenda Items – None.**

**Policy Agenda.**

**Minutes:**

1. Motion to approve March 2, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Ward 3 Morgan, seconded by Ward 4 Clark to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2021 Regular meeting.

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Tabled Matters:**

2. **2021-052:** Motion to authorize advertisement for bids for City Hall Parking Lot Improvements.

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, seconded Ward 3 Morgan; Ward 1 Finley withdrew motion, Ward 3 Morgan withdrew second.

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

**Resolutions:**

3. **2021-016:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-003 thereby authorizing the payment of current Fire Fund balance in the amount of \$23,062.48 to include any additional interest accruals to the Hancock County Board of Supervisors for the purchase of equipment for the Diamondhead Fire Department.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, seconded by At-Large L'Ecuyer to adopt Resolution 2021-003 thereby authorizing the payment of current Fire Fund balance in the amount of \$23,062.48 to include any additional interest accruals to the Hancock County Board of Supervisors for the purchase of equipment for the Diamondhead Fire Department.

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

4. **2021-071:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-013 thereby by reappointing William Hourin to serve as Planning & Zoning Commissioner for a term of 3 years effective immediately and expiring March 2024.

**2021-071:** Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Ward 3 Morgan to adopt Resolution 2021-013 thereby by reappointing William Hourin to serve as Planning & Zoning Commissioner for a term of 3 years effective immediately and expiring March 2024.

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. **2021-076:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-014 thereby abandoning the 5' utility/drainage easement between Lots 10 and 11 Diamondhead Phase 2, Unit 4A, Block 13 (parcel number is 067E-2-26-043.000) physical street address is 9524 Laa La Court. (Elliott Homes)

Motion made by Ward 3 Morgan, Seconded by At-Large L'Ecuyer to adopt Resolution 2021-014 thereby abandoning the 5' utility/drainage easement between Lots 10 and 11 Diamondhead Phase 2, Unit 4A, Block 13 (parcel number is 067E-2-26-043.000) physical street address is 9524 Laa La Court. (Elliott Homes).

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 6. 2021-077:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-015 thereby authorizing the use of an unmarked police vehicle Unit #340 and for other related purposes.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, seconded by At-Large L'Ecuyer to adopt Resolution 2021-015 thereby authorizing the use of an unmarked police vehicle Unit #340 and for other related purposes.

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion made by At-Large L'Ecuyer, seconded by Ward 4 Clark to approve all items (7-17) on the Consent Agenda.

- 7. 2021-067:** Motion to approve entering into agreement with GRPC to update the BUILD grant application for 2021 for the Commercial District Transformation Project in an amount not to exceed \$1,500.
- 8. 2021-069:** Motion to approve payment to Digital Engineering & Imaging for professional services included in Invoice #730-1000-89 in the amount of \$145.50 for plan review, Invoice #730-1000-90 in the amount of \$776 for GIS Maintenance and Invoice #730-1000-91 in the amount of \$707 for plan review for a total of \$1,628.50.
- 9. 2021-070:** Motion to accept donations received from various donors in support of the proposed Diamondhead Dog Park and to earmark such funds to be expensed for same.
- 10. 2021-072:** Motion to authorize payment of Holliday Invoice #23 for debris removal and disposal costs in the amount not to exceed \$32,964.56.
- 11. 2021-073:** Motion to approval final acceptance of East Aloha Widening Project (MDOT STP-004-00(028)LPA/10758) effective March 16, 2021 and authorize the City Manager to execute contractor's notice of same.
- 12. 2021-074:** Motion to authorize City Manager to enter agreement with Core Hospitality to conduct a feasibility study for a midscale hotel in Diamondhead for an amount not to exceed \$6,950.
- 13. 2020-075:** Motion to authorize the City Manager, in coordination with Jason Chiniche, to make permit application to the Department of Marine Resources for the Montjoy Creek Improvement Project.
- 14. 2021-078:** Motion to approve renewals for all lines of insurances coverages (property, automobile, general liability, EPL, etc.) for 2021.

Motion to approve renewals for all lines of insurances for 2021 coverages in the total amount of \$90,466. through BSXI Insurance as follows:

Property: Velocity \$14,984, Equipment Floater: Markel American Insurance \$14,666, Equipment Breakdown: Hartford Steam Boiler Insurance \$558, General Liability: Travelers \$9,045, Public

Officials Liability: Travelers \$9,245, Business Auto: Travelers Indemnity Co \$36,785, Cyber/Crime: Travelers Casualty & Surety Co \$5,183.

- 15. **2021-079:** Motion to approve the design and location of proposed dog park on the city-owned parcel at Twin Lakes.
- 16. **2021-080:** Motion to approve Memorial Hospital Gulfport - Memorial Physicians Clinic as providers for Occupational Medicine Services for the City.
- 17. **2021-081:** Motion to authorize city-sponsored events for the 2021 calendar year (FY21 and FY22) and to authorize expenses as determined within the respective budget.

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Action Agenda.**

- 18. **2021-071:** Motion to rescind action taken on February 8, 2021 whereby the low apparent bid of Land Shaper, Inc. was accepted for the Roadway Improvements Project Phase 3 due to the contractor's failure to meet specifications, reject all bids received, and approve to re-advertise for the project.

Motion made by At-Large L'Ecuyer, seconded by Ward 3 Morgan to rescind action taken on February 8, 2021 whereby the low apparent bid of Land Shaper, Inc. was accepted for the Roadway Improvements Project Phase 3 due to the contractor's failure to meet specifications, reject all bids received, and approve to re-advertise for the project.

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 18. a. **2021-081:** Motion to incorporate into the Minutes correspondence dated March 15, 2021 to legislative delegates regarding treasury guidance for American Rescue Plan (H.R. 1319) funds.

Motion made by Ward 3 Morgan, seconded by Ward 2 Moran to incorporate into the Minutes correspondence dated March 15, 2021 to legislative delegates regarding treasury guidance for American Rescue Plan (H.R. 1319) funds..

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Routine Agenda.**

**Claims Payable**

- 19. Motion to approve the Docket of Claims (DKT158223-DKT158261) in the amount of \$255,310.47.

Motion made by At-Large L'Ecuyer, seconded by Ward 4 Clark to approve the Docket of Claims (DKT158223-DKT158261) in the amount of \$255,310.47.

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

20. Motion to approve Payroll Payables PRCLAIM077 in the amount of \$30,807.63, PRCLAIM078 in the amount of \$2,720.31, PRCLAIM079 in the amount of \$29,386.25 and APPKT01430 in the amount of \$46,555.92.

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, seconded by Ward 2 Moran to approve Payroll Payables PRCLAIM077 in the amount of \$30,807.63, PRCLAIM078 in the amount of \$2,720.31, PRCLAIM079 in the amount of \$29,386.25 and APPKT01430 in the amount of \$46,555.92.

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### Department Reports

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 3 Morgan to accept all Department Reports presented at March 16, 2021 regular meeting.

- a. February 2021 Financials
- b. Police Dept. Report
- c. Building Dept. Report
- d. Privilege License Report
- e. Code Enforcement Report
- f. Solid Waste Report

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items. - None**

### Adjourn/Recess.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, seconded by Ward 3 Morgan to adjourn meeting at 6:28 p.m.

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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Nancy Depreo  
Mayor

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Jeannie Klein  
City Clerk